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MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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DECIDUOUS-FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A. L. Quaintance, Associate Chief of Bureau, in Charge

Dr. D. A. Porter, in charge of the Vincennes, Ind., laboratory, talked before the Illinois State Horticultural Society on December 15, on the codling moth. He also appeared on the program of the New York State Horticultural Society on January 12, and discussed lubricating-oil emulsions. Dr. Porter spent several weeks in Washington, but has now returned to his permanent headquarters at Vincennes.

Dr. A. A. Granovsky, of the University of Wisconsin, spent several days in January studying aphids with Dr. Mason. Dr. Granovsky is especially interested in the Callipterini and is working on a monograph of this group.

Dr. Merrill, of the Florida State Plant Board, visited the Bureau in January to study the collection of Aleyrodidae.

BEE CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

James I. Hambleton, Apiculturist, in Charge

E. L. Sechrist, of the Bee Culture Laboratory of the Bureau of Entomology, was one of the speakers at the Beekeepers' Short Course at Cornell University in the latter part of January.

Visitors at the Bee Culture Laboratory in the month of January included F. B. Meacham, Instructor in Beekeeping at the North Carolina State College of Agriculture, E. R. Root, President of the A. I. Root Company and one of the editors of Gleanings in Bee Culture; H. H. Root, General Manager of the A. I. Root Company; A. A. Granovsky, Assistant Entomologist, University of Wisconsin; Chas. B. Justice, a California honey dealer, and Miss C. Lucas, of England, a graduate student at Johns Hopkins University.

In January Jas. I. Hambleton attended beekeepers' meetings in Little Rock, Ark., and the annual meeting of the American Honey Producers' League, at New Orleans, La.

TAXONOMIC INVESTIGATIONS

S. A. Rohwer, Entomologist, in Charge

Dr. E. D. Ball, formerly director of Scientific Work of the Department of Agriculture, spent several days at the Museum early in January, working on Hemiptera.

Dr. S. B. Fracker, State Entomologist of Wisconsin, spent New Year's Day working with Mr. Heinrich on the larvae of certain noctuids, which seem to be of some economic importance and are attracting attention in connection with the work on the European corn borer.

Dr. J. M. Swaine and Ralph Hopping, of British Columbia, visited the Division of Insects for the week commencing January 3 to study the types of Coleoptera in the Casey Collection and in the regular collection of the National Museum.

Dr. T. H. Frison, of the Illinois State Natural History Survey, spent January 3 to 5 working on bumblebees in the National Collection, and consulting with various specialists about lots of insects which he had sent to them.

Carl Heinrich left on January 10 for the Southwest, where he will spend several months studying Lepidoptera. His first work will be with the Federal Horticultural Board, on the pink boll worm.

Percy Viosca, Jr., of the Southern Biological Supply Company, New Orleans, La., stopped at the Division on January 8, to meet the various specialists.

Dr. W. A. Fenton, of the Bureau, stationed at Columbia, S. C., spent January 8 to 10, inclusive, at the Museum, studying and arranging the collection of Anteoninae. Dr. Fenton was able to rearrange the entire collection and put it into good order, and is going to study some of the undetermined material in connection with the material he already has. The Anteoninae are curious parasites of leafhoppers, and are more commonly known as dryinids. Now that the collection is arranged, and we see where we need more material, we shall be very glad if Bureau workers having an opportunity to collect or rear any members of this group will send them in for the collection.

S. S. Crossman, of the Gipsy Moth Laboratory, visited the Section on January 8.

E. V. Walter, of the Bureau Laboratory at San Antonio, Tex., spent about three weeks in January studying Lepidoptera in the collection. Mr. Walter has made a very extensive collection of Lepidoptera in the last few years, most of which were collected in Arizona, and he brought this material to the Museum to be determined. In the course of his study a number of new species were found. Some of these are being described by Dr. Dyar.

A. N. Caudell gave a talk on "Grasshoppers" over the radio on the evening of January 26.

Dr. W. J. Holland, of Pittsburgh, Pa., recently spent a day here with Dr. Schaus.

Some interesting specimens of North American Lepidoptera have recently been received as gifts from the Carnegie Museum. They are mostly species not represented in the collection.

Dr. Wm. Schaus has recently donated to the National Museum a valuable collection of 10,000 specimens of moths, chiefly from Bolivia, which were purchased by him from a collector in that country.

Messrs. Martin, Gayer, and Hewes, staff photographers of the National Geographic Magazine, have been working with Dr. Dyar for several weeks, making plates of butterflies and moths for publication in an early number of the magazine.

TRUCK-CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. E. Graf, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

Messrs. Boyden, Campbell, Dudley, and Howard, who were called to Washington for conference in the latter part of December, 1926, have returned to their official stations. Mr. Campbell stopped off at the Delta Laboratory at Tallulah, La., where he conferred with officials in charge regarding the methods used in poisoning the cotton boll weevil. He is attempting to determine whether similar methods could be used, under California conditions, against the pepper weevil.

Walter Carter, Twin Falls, Idaho, visited Richfield, Utah, on January 11, to look over the prospects for locating a substation there for the sugar beet leafhopper ecological studies.

J. E. Graf attended a meeting of State and other officials at Accomac, Va., on January 21, to discuss the tuber moth situation on the Eastern Shore.

The temporary appointment of G. A. Orum as Field Assistant at Foley, Ala., in connection with work in the eradication of the sweet potato weevil, has been terminated, effective January 18.

F. B. Cotner, Associate Professor of Botany and Bacteriology, Montana Agricultural College, Bozeman, has been appointed a Collaborator, effective January 1.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

W. H. Larrimer, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

A corn borer conference was held at Chicago on January 21 and 22, to standardize recommendations for the proper use of existing plow equipment, and accessories thereof, to meet the requirements of the corn borer clean-up campaign this spring. The conference was attended by experts of the large manufacturers of farm machinery. Representatives were also present from the Agricultural Engineering Departments of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Prof. A. L. Wiancko, of the Agronomy Department of Purdue University, and Mr. Smith, President of the County Agents' Association, attended. The Bureau was represented by L. H. Worthley and D. J. Caffrey. Prof. C. O. Reed, of the Agricultural Engineering Department of Ohio State University, presided.

Dr. Philip Luginbill, of the Monroe, Mich., corn borer laboratory, and D. S. Lacroix, of the Sandusky, Ohio, corn borer laboratory, were at Toledo, Ohio, on January 24, for consultation with D. J. Caffrey relative to winter phases of the investigational work.

For the period ending January 21, 1927, the shipments of corn borer parasite material from Europe included a total of 84,000 cocoons of Microgaster tibialis Nees, 12,500 cocoons of Eulimneria crassifemur Thom., and 645,000 host larvae, from which five additional species will be reared. These shipments will be continued and supplemented by laboratory rearings. Preliminary shipments of parasite material from India and from Japan have also been received through the cooperation of the Japanese beetle investigators.

J. W. Ingram, in charge of the laboratory at Crowley, La., was recently in New Orleans for conference with T. E. Holloway and W. E. Haley.

On January 19 about 1,500 persons attended the special session on the European corn borer, held in connection with Farmers' Week, at the Auditorium of the College of Agriculture, University of Illinois, at Urbana. Addresses on the corn borer were given by D. J. Caffrey, of the Bureau, R. M. Salter, of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, R. I. Shawl, of the University, and Theo. Brown. The new moving picture films of the corn borer were shown, and a special corn borer exhibit was also displayed. Dr. S. A. Forbes presided at the session.

C. H. Gable, formerly in charge of the San Antonio, Tex., laboratory, resigned from the Bureau, effective December 31, 1926, to enter commercial work.

E. V. Walter, formerly of the Tempe, Ariz., laboratory, has accepted the leadership of the San Antonio, Tex., laboratory, following the recent resignation of Mr. Gable.

T. E. Holloway, in charge of the New Orleans, La., laboratory, was in Washington for a few days in January in consultation with Bureau officials.

G. G. Ainslie, formerly in charge of the Knoxville, Tenn., laboratory, resigned from the Bureau service, effective January 31, 1927, for the purpose of entering commercial work. His address, as formerly, will be Knoxville, Tenn.

At a conference of representatives of the committee of the international European corn borer organization and representatives of the Department of Agriculture, held in Washington early in January, the need for a careful administrative consideration of the research program in reference to the control of the European corn borer was made plain. In view of the emergent character of the situation, it seemed important that there be called a similar conference of the station directors in the States concerned, to consider the research now in progress bearing on the problem and to map out a research program for the coming season, in which the various States join with the Department. Such a conference was called by Doctor A. F. Woods, Director of Scientific Work, to meet in Washington, January 6 and 7. The conference was attended by station directors, entomologists, agronomists, farm machinery engineers, and other representative officials of the Corn Belt and of States not immediately in that area. The research program of the Department was outlined in detail, and the many investigational phases bearing either directly or indirectly on the problem of control were freely discussed. The research programs of the various States concerned were presented and likewise discussed. It was the general opinion of those in attendance that practically nothing had been omitted from the combined program of the Department and the States, and while the enlargement of some of the projects was arranged for, no new lines of work were suggested.

E. V. Walter, in charge of the San Antonio, Tex., laboratory, spent a portion of January in Washington in museum and library work and in consultation with Bureau officials.

C. C. Hill and H. D. Smith attended the meeting of the Entomological Society of Pennsylvania held in Harrisburg, January 18. Mr. Hill was elected Secretary for the coming year.

FOREST INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. C. Craighead, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

Dr. F. C. Craighead left Washington January 27 for a conference with Messrs. Miller, Evenden, Keen, Dr. Burke, and Dr. Blackman, at Palo Alto, Calif., on the western work of the Division for the approaching summer.

STORED-PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

E. A. Back, Senior Entomologist, in Charge

On January 7 a conference was called by the Bureau of Standards in the office of Lt. Col. John S. Chambers, Q. M. C., Room 2215 Munitions Building, War Department, Washington, D. C., for the purpose of discussing the desirability of starting cooperative work to determine what value, if any, dyes have in protecting fabrics from clothes-moth attack. There were present representatives of the War and Navy Departments, the Bureau of Standards of the Commerce Department, National Association of Dyers and Cleaners, and the Bureaus of Chemistry and Entomology of the Department of Agriculture. Doctors Back and Cotton represented the Bureau of Entomology.

Photographs of interest to storage concerns were sent early in January, upon request, to New Haven, Conn., to be used in the exhibits of the Commercial Exhibition held in that city January 26 to February 5.

Perez Simmons read an interesting paper, entitled "The ability of the cheese skipper to endure unfavorable conditions," at the January 6 meeting of the Washington Entomological Society.

The 1926 Line Book, issued in January by the Chicago Tribune, and presented to the Stored Product Insect Investigations by a Chicago warehouseman because of the references it contained to insects, contains several poems dedicated to crickets. One poem begins, "Chirp, little singer! though dark is the night, You are a bringer of lyric delight," etc. This could never have been written by a resident of Baltimore in that part of his city that was literally overrun last July by the house cricket, *Gryllus domesticus*. Dr. Caudell states that on rare occasions the house cricket breeds in large numbers in city dumps, and at times swarms from such places and becomes a "Pharaoh's plague" to surrounding property holders.

J. C. Hamlin, in charge of the Bureau's investigation of dried-fruit insects at Fresno, Calif., addressed the Federal Business Mens' Association of the San Joaquin Valley at the monthly meeting held in Fresno on January 15. The subject selected for him was, "Bugs with which I have come in contact." Aside from casual reference to ticks, fleas, bedbugs, and other unpleasant contacts, the address dealt with the effort toward biological control of introduced cactus pests in Australia. Mr. Hamlin resigned from the direction of that project to resume work in the Bureau.

On January 15 some importers of raw silk from Japan called the attention of the Bureau to a case of serious loss and injury to raw silk by cadelle larvae. This is another instance of a stored-product pest, normally a feeder upon grain and grain products, causing loss to a non-food product stored in the vicinity of its food.

Departmental Bulletin 1428, "The Cadelle," recently issued, has in the past two months received considerable attention in the grain and milling journals.

One business firm wrote this division in January that the technical information regarding the biology of grain pests given them in December by this Bureau has saved them from paying a \$500 claim for damages for which the Company had been unjustly held responsible.

E. R. Sasscer informs this division that on January 25 R. I. Smith, Associate Plant Quarantine Inspector, of the Federal Horticultural Board, at Boston, Mass., intercepted a shipment of about 30,000 specimens (about 4 quarts) of the meal worm, Tenebrio obscurus. These were shipped from Germany to a concern in Boston, and were intended as food for birds. This shipment recalls the interest of bird fanciers in this country in methods for growing meal worms in large numbers. Dr. Cotton discusses such methods in his forthcoming bulletin on meal worms. One correspondent has stated that he could use a half billion meal worm larvae a year as fish bait.

On January 27, at the request of the California Dried Fruit Association, Dr. Cotton made a study of the infestation of a cargo of figs recently brought to New York from San Francisco. The past year has been a bad one for fig-storage pests.

J. C. Hamlin reports a visit by Dr. A. C. Baker in December to the Dried Fruit Laboratory at Fresno.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

NEW BOOKS

- Agricultural Insecticide and Fungicide Manufacturers' Association.
Bulletin No. 1-2, 4-5, April, 1925-Dec., 1926. Published by the Association, Ernest T. Trigg, President, 509 The Bourse, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Badische Blätter für angewandte Entomologie. Bd. 2, Heft 1, March, 1926.
Freiburg, i. Br. 1926.
- Braun, Max, and Seifert, Otto.
Die tierischen Parasiten des Menschen... 6. Aufl. Bd. 2, 594 p., illus. Kurt Kabitzsch, Leipzig, 1926.
- Catalogue of Indian insects, Part 11. Brentiidae, by Richard Kleine. 50 p.
Government of India Central Publications Branch, Calcutta, 1926.
- Chicago - Sanitary District - Board of Trustees.
Mosquito facts for mosquito fighters. 48 p., illus. Chicago, 1926.
- Deutsche Zentral-Afrika-Expedition, 2d., 1910-1911.
Ergebnisse... unter Führung Adolf Friedrichs. Bd. 1, Lfg. 18.
Klinkhardt & Bierman, Leipzig, 1925. Contents: Bd. 1, Zoologie, hrsg. von H. Schubotz; Lfg. 18, Aurivillius, Lepidoptera IV.
- Duda, Oswald.
Die costaricanischen Drosophiliden des Ungarischen National-Museums zu Budapest. (Annales Hist.-Nat. Mus. Nat. Hungarici v. 22, p. 149-229, illus., Dec. 22, 1925.)

Ekblom, Tore.

Morphological and biological studies of the Swedish families of Hemiptera-Heteroptera. Part I. The families Saldidae, Nabidae, Lygaeidae, Hydrometridae, Veliidae and Gerridae. 31-179 p., illus. Almquist & Wiksells boktryckeri -A-B, 1926. Academical dissertation, reprinted from Zoologiska bidrag från Uppsala.

Gater, B. A. R.

A preliminary list of food-plants of some Malayan insects. Compiled by B. A. R. Gater from the records obtained in the Entomological Laboratory from 1920 to 1926, by G. H. Corbett and B. A. R. Gater. 95 p. Huxley, Palmer & Co., Ltd., Kuala Lumpur, 1926. (Federated Malay States and Straits Settlements Dept. Agr. Bul. 38.)

Handbuch der Zoologie..., gegründet von Dr. Willy Kükenthal. Hrsg. von Thilo Krumbach. Bd. 4, Lfg. 3. 241-352 p., illus. Walter de Gruyter & Co., Berlin und Leipzig, 1926. Contents: Chilopoda, by Carl Attems.

Hoffmann, Adolf.

Entomologen Addressbuch. Annuaire des entomologistes. 2. Aufl. 330 p. Adolf Hoffmann, Wien, XIV, Nobilegasse 20, 1926.

Hori, Matsuji.

Biological studies on the Aphididae of Hokkaido. I. Rhopalosiphum avenae Fabricius. II. Macrosiphum matsumuraeanum Hori. Published by the Hokkaido Agr. Expt. Station, Sapporo, Japan, 1926. (Hokkaido Agr. Expt. Station, Koton, Sapporo, Japan, Bul. 17.)

Illingworth, J. F.

A study of ants in their relation to the growing of pineapples in Hawaii. 16 p. (Hawaii University, Expt. Station of the Association of Hawaiian Pineapple Cannery Bul. 7, July, 1926.)

Kuwayama, Satoru.

A list of insects injurious to agriculture and horticulture in Hokkaido. 130 p. (Hokkaido Agr. Expt. Station, Koji, Sapporo, Japan, Bul. 42, June, 1926.)

Kuwayama, Satoru.

The principal insect pests of the soy bean in Hokkaido. (Hokkaido Agr. Expt. Station, Koji, Sapporo, Japan, Bul. 39, Feb. 1926.)

Lemaire, Paul.

Les produits du rucher. 158 p., illus., pl. J.-B. Baillière et fils, Paris, 1925.

Lindner, Erwin.

Die Fliegen der palaearktischen Region. lfg. 12-13. E. Schweizerbart'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, Stuttgart, 1926. Contents: Fungivoridae, von Carl Landrock, p. 1-96, 6 pl.

Melichar, Leopold.

Monographie der Cicadellinen I-II. (Annales Hist. Nat. Musei Nat. Hungarici v. 21, p. 195-243, Dec. 29, 1924, and v. 22, p. 329-410, Dec. 22, 1925.)

Opuscula Ichneumonologica, hrsg. von Otto Schmiedeknecht, fasc. 43. 3363-3442 p. W. Greve, Blankenburg i Thur, 1926.

Priesner, H.

Die Thysanopteren Europas. Abt. 1. 238 p., 3 pl. Verlag von Fritz Wagner, Wien, 1926.

Quebec Society for the Protection of Plants.

Annual report 18, 1925-26 (Supplement to the Report of the Minister of Agriculture). 128 p., pl. L. Amable Proulx, King's printer, Quebec, 1926.

Romine, F. E.

Plant Names, common or vernacular and scientific or botanical, with sizes, times, colors... 115 p. F. E. Romine, Pontiac, Mich., 1926.

Trelease, William.

Plant materials of decorative gardening. The woody plants. Ed. 3, rev. 188 p. Published by the author, Urbana, Ill., 1926.

U. S. Dept. of the Interior. Bureau of Education.

Bulletin (1926) No. 16. A handbook of educational associations and foundations in the United States. 89 p. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1926. Prepared in the Library Division, J. D. Wolcott, Chief.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

CHICAGO, ILL.

1925

TO THE HONORABLE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

AND TO THE FACULTY OF THE PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE

COMMISSION ON THE PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO